

1. (Currently Amended) A trap for receiving bullets, the trap comprising:  
a housing having a cavity defined by an outerwall surrounding a void; and  
an insert forming a bullet deceleration chamber, the insert being slidably insertable into and removable from the void of the housing, the insert being formed of a bullet decelerating material and having an opening for receiving a barrel of a gun, wherein the insert is formed by a plurality of pieces of steel plate.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The trap for receiving bullets according to claim 2~~1~~, wherein the plurality of pieces of steel plate form a bottom portion having a generally u-shaped cross-section and a top removably engaging the bottom portion such that the insert has a square cross-section when the top is attached.

4. The trap for receiving bullets according to claim 3, wherein the bottom portion is formed by a bottom and a pair of sidewalls, the bottom and sidewalls being fixedly attached to one another.

5. The trap for receiving bullets according to claim 1, wherein the insert comprises a plurality of vents for releasing force from the insert when a gun is fired into the insert.

6. The trap for receiving bullets according to claim 5, wherein the insert is formed from a top plate, a bottom plate and a pair of sidewalls, and wherein the vents are formed between the sidewalls and at least one of the top plate and the bottom plate.

7. The trap for receiving bullets according to claim 5, wherein the insert has at least one plate forming a lower end, and wherein the at least one plate has at least one slot formed therein.

8. (Previously Amended) A trap for receiving bullets, the trap comprising:  
a housing having a cavity defined by an outerwall surrounding a void; and  
an insert forming a bullet deceleration chamber, the insert being slidably insertable into and removable from the void of the housing, and wherein the insert has two bottom plates and wherein the bottom plates each have slots formed therein.

9. The trap for receiving bullets according to claim 8, wherein the plates are aligned such that the slots in the plates do not overlap.

10. The trap for receiving bullets according to claim 1, wherein the insert further comprises a bullet deceleration medium disposed therein.

11. The trap for receiving bullets according to claim 10, wherein the bullet deceleration medium is formed by pieces of rubber.

12. The trap for receiving bullets according to claim 1, wherein the housing is formed from a tube having a generally square cross-section.

13. The trap for receiving bullets according to claim 1, wherein the housing is formed from a material other than plate steel.

14. - 19. (Canceled)

20. (Presently Amended) A method for forming a clearing trap, the method comprising:  
selecting a housing having a void configured to receive a bullet deceleration chamber and an open end through which a bullet passes;

selecting a bullet deceleration chamber formed from a plurality of generally flat pieces of steel; and

sliding the bullet deceleration chamber through the open end and into the void configured to receive the bullet deceleration chamber.

21. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 20, wherein the method further comprises forming a face plate at one end of the housing or insert.

22. The method according to claim 20, wherein the method further comprises filling the bullet deceleration chamber with a bullet deceleration medium.